Attachment 5: Sources of Discarded Carpet¹

Sources of Carpet Going to California Landfills

Sources of Data

New construction: Trimmings from new carpet installations.

Known (estimated from sales data). Would be a small portion of new carpet installation and a portion of new carpet sales.

Replacement: carpet replaced with carpet.

Known (estimated from sales data). Portion of new carpet sales.

Replacement: carpet replaced with hard surface (HS) flooring.

Unclear. Survey data exists, but reported in terms of market share dollars and that does not translate directly to square footage and weight? Unknown relationship between price of carpet vs hard surface. Also HS may be used less in new construction and used more to replace carpet so also need to look at where HS used.

Replacement: carpet removed, old flooring refinished and used.

(no sales of flooring material)

Unknown. Existing installed carpet is estimated to be about 8 billion pounds (based off square footage of buildings in CA and portion in carpet). Some portion of carpet is deselected and converted back to wood or concrete floors. Unclear how to capture this data.

Demolition: removal of buildings.

Unknown. Estimated as a portion of discarded carpet. Unclear exactly how it is estimated. A factor based off carpet sales is used, is there a better factor to use such as demolition permits.

Imported: waste carpets come from other states

Unknown. Some recyclers process carpet from other states. Some loads could be rejected and end up at landfills.

¹ The discarded carpet may come from homeowners, carpet retailers/installers, collectors/processors that provide collection trailers, commercial demolition and remodel service providers.